Joint Committee on Education Legislative Office Building Hartford, CT

February 28, 2019

Dear Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Education,

I am writing to urge you to **OPPOSE** SB 874: REGISTERING HOMESCHOOLERS & FORCING COMMON CORE, which includes the following sections:

- 1. Sec. 17 mandating in-person registration by all homeschooling parents.
- 2. Sec. 18 mandating all homeschooling parents to teach their children (K-4) according to the Common Core model.

I **OPPOSE** these sections of the bill because it is in conflict to our natural rights and liberties as protected by the U.S. Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that education is a parent's fundamental, constitutional right. Therefore, I intend to execute on these rights and should not be required to register my educational decisions or abide by Common Core values.

As refugees, my family and I migrated to the United States almost forty years ago. We are proud citizens of this country which affords the protection of liberty, justice and places restriction on the powers of government; that we once did not have in our country of birth. Lately, I have been seeing many pieces of legislation, similar to SB 874, that violate these rights that many have fought so hard to protect. Rather than moving forward by learning from our rich history and creating policy that will enrich the lives of citizens as well as this country, we are moving backwards.

Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Education, please OPPOSE SB 874.

Sincerely, Sinthy Khamsaeng Meriden, CT